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and I am not prepared to reveal the correspondence between me and the Prime Minister in exact terms. I have already said that the quotation is wrong and I did not send such a letter."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" When the Hon. the Chief Minister says that what I have said is incorrect, it is up to him to tell us what is correct. I do not want the exact terms. May I know the gist of his communication to the Prime Minister? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" No Sir. It is not in the public interest to disclose such correspondence in the House."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Holding as he does, the position of the Chief Minister of this State, does he not think that his correspondence on a matter of such importance affecting the Andhra people should be known to the people? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am quite aware of the duties of my position and the obligations following therefrom and I am quite prepared to say that the matter is important. But I am in a position to reaffirm that correspondence between the Prime Minister of India and the Chief Minister here which is of a confidential character cannot be disclosed whatever the subject-matter may be. Occasions for such correspondence arise every day and correspondence will become useless and meaningless if we make it a matter for public discussion."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is becoming more or less a cross-examination."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Under what provision of law is the correspondence treated as confidential? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" These are letters from one gentleman to another and gentlemen's correspondence is always private."

Pennar-Kumudavathi Scheme.

* 2 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM : " Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the present stage of progress of the Pennar-Kumudavathi scheme is; and

(*b*) when it is likely to be completed?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The major portion of the anicut, and the head sluices have been built. The excavation of two leading channels from the scouring sluices of the anicut is in progress, and all supply channels, except Subbaroyapalli channel, taking off from the two leading channels have been completed but for the bridging of a few gaps and crossings.

"(b) The project is expected to be completed in December 1952."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—"Will the Hon. Minister for Public Works be pleased to say whether this is one of the projects in respect of which instructions have been issued for slowing down?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—"There is no question of this project being slowed down."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"May know whether instructions have been issued to slow down any other projects?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—"I want notice."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"May I know whether instructions have been issued for slowing down any projects, at least so far as Anantapur district is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—"There is no point in putting the same question in another form. I want notice. I cannot carry all these things in my head."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—"This is a very important matter as it relates to the projects in a famine area, and as the Hon. Minister for Public Works comes from that famine area he can very easily give the answer. I would request him to give us information as to whether he has sent any instructions for slowing down the execution of projects there. This is not a question for answering which he requires any time?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—"Let the hon. Member put down a separate question. I will get the required information and give him."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the question of slowing down the execution of projects is a general one for answering which notice is absolutely unnecessary?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—"I do not think so."

Appointment of Regional Transport Officers.

* 3 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Regional Transport Officers' posts were filled during the months of January, February and March 1952, either by direct recruitment or by promotion; and

(*b*) if so, what are the names of the persons posted and what were the posts held by them previous to such appointments?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—"(*a*) One post of Regional Transport Officer was filled during the period The appointment was made on 28th March 1952.

"(*b*) The name of the officer appointed is Sri K. Subramanyam. He was a Superintendent in the Public Department."